Sale of vacant land by M/s. Jessop & Co.

1431. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) whether vacant land of M/s. Jessop & Co. has been sold to Metro Railway Authorities recently;

(b) if so, the details of the same including the area of the land and the selling price;

(c) whether Jessop is having similar land as its asset; and

(d) if so, the total area of such saleable land available with M/s. Jessop?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBH AIRAMJIBHAIKATHIRI A): (a) and (b) Metro Railway Authorities intend to take about 5.5 acres of land at an agreed price of about Rs. 1.8 crore per acre. Besides, Metro Railway Authorities will bear the cost of shifting of Workshop & related facilities to be carried out by Jessop to facilitate handing over of land in vacant condition.

(c) and (d) At present, no saleable land is available.

Amended VRS

1432. SHRI P.K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Voluntary Retirement Scheme (VRS) which has been amended by Government with a view to reducing the number of employees in public sector undertakings;

(b) the details of the number of employees opting for voluntary retirement scheme during the last tent years, PSU-wise;

(c) whether Government propose to make the said scheme more liberal; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEAVY INDUSTRIES AND PUBLIC ENTERPRISES (DR. VALLABHBHA1 RAMJIBHAI KATHIRI A): (a) to (d) The Government have announed some amendments to the existing VRS through OM No. 2(32)/97- DPE(WC)-GL-LVI dated 6th November, 2001 only. These amended provisions grant higher ex- gratia to employees of PSUs where pay scales were not revised after 1.1.87 or 1.1.92. The salient features are: